

MINUTES
UTAH
MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPY
BOARD MEETING

June 1, 2007

Room 402 – 4th Floor – 9:00 A.M.
Heber Wells Building
Salt Lake City, UT 84111

CONVENED: 9:16 A.M.

ADJOURNED: 11:35 A.M.

Bureau Manager:
Board Secretary:

Noel Taxin
Karen McCall

Board Members Present:

Jean N Soderquist, Ph.D.
Karen Feinauer
Richard Nielsen, Ph.D.

Board Members Absent:

James M. Harper, Ph.D, Chairperson
Lanae Valentine, Ph.D.

Guests:

Nalie de Araujo Nunes, BYU Student
Mary-Kathryn Amott, BYU Student
Regan Harsley, BYU Student
Robb Clawson, BYU Student
Chad Olson, BYU Student
Jessica Cromar, BYU Student
Sareta Head, BYU Student
Jessica Stubbs, BYU Student
Kevin Figuerres, BYU Student

DOPL Staff Present:

David Stanley, Division Director

TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION

DECISIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS:

FYI

Ms. Taxin was requested to act as Chairperson today as Dr. Harper was in a minor car accident on his way to the Marriage and Family Therapy Board meeting and will be unable to attend today.

MINUTES:

The minutes from the March 23, 2007 meeting were read.

Dr. Nielsen made a motion to approve the minutes as read. Dr. Soderquist seconded the motion. **The Board vote was unanimous.**

APPOINTMENTS:

10:00 A.M.

Review Proposed Rules

Ms. Taxin informed the Board that Alan Springer was unable to attend the meeting today. She stated that Thorana Nelson called to ask if she should be in attendance and Ms. Taxin told her that she could attend if she wanted but it probably was not really necessary. Ms. Taxin informed Dr. Nelson of the changes over the phone.

Ms. Taxin stated that in the Rules under R156-60b-302a(1)(b)(ii) the Board had discussed in the March 23, 2007 meeting clarifying that that the nine semester hours/12 quarter hours of course work in assessment and treatment in marriage and family therapy should include "include DSM".

Ms. Taxin stated that the wording "including DSM" should also be included under in R156-60b-302a(2)(B). She asked if DSM should be written out or if the acronym is sufficient.

The Board responded that the acronym DSM is sufficient as it is commonly known and used within the mental health profession.

Ms. Taxin stated that the Board also discussed R156-60b-302d, Qualifications to be a Marriage and Family Therapist Training Supervisor and Mental Health Therapist Training Supervisor. Ms. Taxin explained that there has been a shortage of MFT's and the rule was already written when she became Bureau manager.

Ms. Taxin stated that the MFT Board had decided to open the supervision for Psychologists, Professional Counselors and Licensed Clinical Social Workers to

supervise MFT Interns if they completed specific additional courses. She stated that she did not believe people who had completed all the education requirements to be licensed should be required to complete so many additional courses to be an approved supervisor. Ms. Taxin stated that most States require only the MFT to supervise an MFT Intern. She stated that the Board had requested that section be deleted. Ms. Taxin stated that an AAMFT supervisor is required to complete a rigorous supervision program. She stated that Utah State University has put together a course that is not as rigorous but is a good program. Ms. Taxin recommended the MFT supervisor be an approved AAMFT supervisor or a Utah approved supervisor.

Mr. Stanley asked if the AAMFT is the sole source for completing the approved supervisor courses.

Ms. Taxin responded that the program is offered through AAMFT and it can take years to complete. She stated that there is also a Utah program which is a 20 hour program. Ms. Taxin informed the Board and Mr. Stanley that if someone obtains their supervision from a Utah approved supervisor and tries to become licensed in another State, that State might not accept the supervised hours. Ms. Taxin explained that the Utah program was accepted in order to assist more MFT's in becoming approved supervisors in Utah.

Dr. Nielsen asked if a supervisor has to be licensed 2 years and be an AAMFT approved or Utah approved supervisor.

Ms. Taxin responded that he is correct. She explained that in the past licensed MFT's who had practiced for 2 years were automatically an approved supervisor. Then when the Rules changed it required the 2 years or the supervisor to be an approved mental health therapist. The new proposal will be specific requirements for the licensed MFT to be an approved supervisor. Ms. Taxin stated that MFT Interns are finding it difficult to locate an approved supervisor.

Dr. Soderquist stated that the little towns in rural areas do not have many licensed MFT's to choose

from for supervision.

Ms. Taxin asked the Board if they want to go back to the old practice of approval or continue with licensed MFT's who have worked for 2 years to be a supervisor.

The Board responded that they want the supervisor to be a qualified supervisor.

Ms. Taxin stated that she talked with Thorana Nelson about supervisors in training and the hours counting toward the required supervised 4000 hours for the MFT license. Ms. Taxin stated that she informed Dr. Nelson that the hours will not count toward the required supervised hours. She stated that when a MFT Intern submits their application they should include a copy of either the completed AAMFT supervisor certificate or a copy of the completed Utah supervisor course certificate.

Dr. Nielsen commented that Dr. Nelson's program is a good one and the Board and licensing staff need to be a little understanding with the people going through the program. He stated that Dr. Nelson needs to be complimented and encouraged to continue the momentum to get more supervisors prepared.

Ms. Taxin stated that a motion needs to be made for her to continue the process on revising the Rules. She stated that she will send a copy to Alan Springer to review and then set up a date for a hearing.

Dr. Nielsen made a motion to approve the proposed revisions with one additional minor revision.

Ms. Feinauer seconded the motion.

The Board vote was unanimous.

10:30 A.M.

Dr. Suzanne Dastrup, Probationary Interview

Dr. Dastrup met for her probationary interview.

Dr. Nielsen conducted the interview.

Dr. Nielsen informed Dr. Dastrup that her reports have been received and document that Dr. Dastrup is doing well in her supervision.

Dr. Nielsen asked if Dr. Dastrup moved her office and if she still has an office in her home.

Dr. Dastrup responded that she moved the business office to a new location and does still have an office in her home.

Dr. Nielsen stated that the last meeting with Dr. Dastrup was a good meeting and it appears that she is moving forward. He asked if Dr. Dastrup has any questions of the Board.

Dr. Dastrup responded that she wrote a letter to Ms. Taxin and sent a copy of the letter to a member of the Board. She stated that all her questions have been answered.

Dr. Nielsen commented that Dr. Dastrup had requested her supervision be changed from weekly to less frequent.

Dr. Dastrup responded that both of her supervisors have sent letters with comments that weekly supervision is not necessary and recommended the supervision be changed from weekly to less frequent. Dr. Dastrup stated that the original Stipulation and Order required weekly supervision and when the Order was amended she believes the Board thought that supervision was to continue to be weekly as that requirement was again included in the amendment. Dr. Dastrup stated that she hopes the Board understands the restitution cost for the commitment of weekly supervision. She stated the costs are too prohibitive and the Board is forcing her out of business prematurely.

Ms. Taxin asked what Dr. Smith is charging for a supervision session.

Dr. Dastrup responded that it is \$90.00 but it takes 3 hours out of her scheduled work week.

Ms. Taxin then asked how much Dr. Dastrup charges for her sessions.

Dr. Dastrup responded that she charges an average of \$100.00 per session.

Ms. Taxin then stated Dr. Dastrup has reported that she has 30 patients a week and calculated at 30 patients times \$100.00 per hour equals \$3000.00 per week and then stated, at most, it is costing Dr. Dastrup \$400.00 for the supervision, education and growth which would be a high estimate.

Dr. Nielsen stated that the Board does understand Dr. Dastrup's concern with the time and money investment for the weekly supervision requirement.

Ms. Taxin asked if Dr. Dastrup thought the supervision to date was worth her time and money to have Dr. Smith as her supervisor or if it has been a waste of her time and money.

Dr. Dastrup responded that the time spent with Dr. Smith has been time well spent. She stated that she had expenses prior to the hearing and has had expenses for 18 months now since the hearing and has had to sell the home she was living in because of the costs. Dr. Dastrup stated that she asked Ms. Taxin what she has to do to retire her license in case that is the option she will need to take.

Dr. Nielsen asked Dr. Dastrup to explain the purpose of the Stipulation and Order and the probation. He asked Dr. Dastrup if she has seen progress in her weekly therapy sessions with clients. He stated that therapists continue to see clients due to not seeing progress where the therapist thinks there should be progress. He asked if perhaps this might apply to her probation.

Dr. Dastrup responded that the Board says the supervisor is the eyes for the Board to be sure she is practicing safely.

Dr. Nielsen stated that Dr. Dastrup is correct. He stated that there has to be a time of working

together to be sure the level is maintained. Dr. Nielsen stated that Dr. Dastrup has not met weekly with her supervisor on a regular basis as the reports have noted on a regular basis vacation or sickness and therefore meeting every other week does not meet the requirements of the Stipulation and Order. He then stated that she and Dr. Smith have worked together, developed a relationship and have worked on correcting some of Dr. Dastrup's issues. He stated that there is a time frame to be sure Dr. Dastrup continues at the level she has attained in order that she does not fail in the future.

Dr. Dastrup responded that there comes a point in the investigation process and the probation process where the practitioner is forced out of business.

Ms. Taxin stated that she brought up Dr. Dastrup's discussion with the Board regarding Dr. Dastrup talking to her about being forced out of business.

Dr. Soderquist stated that Dr. Dastrup has also brought the issue up with the Board in many prior meetings.

Ms. Taxin stated that Dr. Dastrup has had 2 incidents and she and the Board want to be sure similar incidents do not happen again. She stated that Dr. Dastrup has also had 2 supervisors and maybe she has felt the supervision has been a waste of her time but that the Board believes the monitoring is necessary.

Dr. Dastrup responded that the supervision has not been a waste of her time.

Ms. Taxin stated that Dr. Dastrup mentioned that she had to sell her home. She asked Dr. Dastrup if her current home is the same one that she had seen.

Dr. Dastrup responded that her current home is a different one.

Dr. Soderquist asked if the new home is in Lindon.

Dr. Dastrup responded that it is. Dr. Dastrup wrote down the physical address and submitted it for her records.

Ms. Feinauer asked if the personal area and the office area of the new home are separated.

Dr. Dastrup responded that they are separated. Dr. Dastrup stated that the Board always thinks she is complaining. She stated that she has commitments that have to be met such as education, cars, her brother, etc. She stated that she will need to consider her decision.

Dr. Nielsen stated that the Board appreciates her comments but they need assurance from her supervisor that she has met a level of practice and that she will continue to hold that level as she has had problems in the past.

Ms. Taxin stated that Dr. Harper is absent from the meeting today. She stated that she would be comfortable addressing Dr. Dastrup's request of changing the weekly requirement of supervision to less frequent at the next scheduled Board meeting as that would give Dr. Dastrup another quarter to continue at the level she has attained. Ms. Taxin stated that the 2 past quarters were the 1st time Dr. Dastrup was in continued compliance with supervisor feedback that showed she had adapted concerns addressed by her supervisor and the Board. Ms. Taxin explained that the amended Stipulation and Order required weekly supervision as Dr. Dastrup had changed supervisors. Ms. Taxin explained that the Stipulation and Order would need to be amended to make the change. She stated that the Board could consider changing the requirement of monthly reports to quarterly at this time.

Dr. Soderquist made a motion for Dr. Dastrup's reports to be changed from monthly to quarterly starting today in order to receive one report prior to the next scheduled Board meeting.

Ms. Feinauer seconded the motion.

The Board vote was unanimous.

Ms. Taxin stated that Dr. Dastrup should continue her weekly supervision with Dr. Smith and ask him to submit his recommendation regarding frequency of supervision. Ms. Taxin stated that Dr. Smith is submitting detailed reports with more information than in the past.

Dr. Nielsen also stated that Dr. Dastrup should request Dr. Smith to write his recommendation on his report.

Dr. Dastrup responded that she is not listening to the Board that she has already made a decision to retire her license. She asked Ms. Taxin to give her the information on how to accomplish the retirement of the license. Dr. Dastrup stated that she made a mistake and made restitution and it is sad that she is being forced out of business. She stated that she will just retire from practice.

Ms. Taxin informed Dr. Dastrup that she can not just retire as she is on probation.

Dr. Dastrup responded that she has already checked into retiring her license and going into retirement. She stated that she knows that if she ever wants to practice again that she will then have to complete her probation.

Ms. Taxin recommended she check into Dr. Dastrup's options and contact her with the information. Ms. Taxin stated that she previously informed Dr. Dastrup that by not paying her renewal fee it would put her out of compliance with her Stipulation and Order.

Dr. Dastrup thanked the Board for their time. She stated that there is a way for her to retire her license and that is what she wants to do at this time.

Dr. Dastrup left the meeting.

Ms. Taxin stated that she and Dr. Dastrup have

discussed the issue of retiring her license a few times. Ms. Taxin stated that she will talk with the attorney about Dr. Dastrup's options and will notify Dr. Dastrup.

10:50 A.M.

Dr. David Gardner, Probationary Interview

Dr. Gardner met for his probationary interview.

Dr. Soderquist conducted the interview.

Dr. Soderquist stated that at Dr. Gardner's last meeting the Board and he talked about his starting a private practice and seeing clients. She asked Dr. Gardner how his plan is going.

Dr. Gardner responded that he has put out feelers to start taking clients. He stated that he has given a copy of the Stipulation and Order to Dr. Stahmann to review.

Ms. Taxin stated that Dr. Stahmann has submitted a letter that he has read the Stipulation and Order and is willing to act as Dr. Gardner's supervisor and to assist Dr. Gardner is being successful in his probation. Ms. Taxin stated that she has called Dr. Stahmann twice to talk with him but Dr. Stahmann has not yet returned her calls.

Dr. Soderquist asked Dr. Gardner if he has any clients yet.

Dr. Gardner responded that he has initiated getting started and has a couple. He stated he is gathering background information, genograms and has done some consultation but has not started working until Dr. Stahmann and he coordinate on the supervision.

Dr. Soderquist asked how Dr. Gardner is doing in general since the last Board meeting regarding anything pertaining to the Board and his Stipulation and Order.

Dr. Gardner responded that things in general are going well.

Ms. Taxin stated that Dr. Gardner signed a new

Stipulation and Order and it states that the supervisor is to meet with the Board at Dr. Gardner's appointment. Ms. Taxin stated that Dr. Stahmann will need to meet with Board. Ms. Taxin stated that she believes Dr. Gardner is doing what he should be but she and/or the Board needs to visit with Dr. Stahmann to be sure he understands the expectations and to be sure he is still interested in supervising. She stated that if Dr. Stahmann is not interested then Dr. Gardner will need to locate another supervisor.

Dr. Soderquist stated that Dr. Stahmann was to retire in about 6 months. She asked Dr. Gardner when that 6 months started and will end. Dr. Soderquist stated that Dr. Gardner may want to start looking for another supervisor now to take over when Dr. Stahmann does retire.

Dr. Gardner responded that he does not know if or when Dr. Stahmann will be retiring.

Ms. Taxin recommended Dr. Gardner get in touch with Dr. Stahmann so he can start his supervision and start working with clients. She stated that he and Dr. Stahmann will be invited to meet at the September 14, 2007 Board meeting.

Dr. Gardner asked if he could show the Board what he has. He explained that he has a link for a live camera that links to his computer. He stated that this device would be a great tool for supervision.

Dr. Nielsen reminded Dr. Gardner to obtain a release from his clients in order to use the device.

Dr. Gardner responded that he understands and is currently revising his consent form. He stated that this device will keep him out of hot water during therapy sessions.

Ms. Taxin stated that if Dr. Gardner also tapes the session he will need to include the consent to tape in his form. She stated that Dr. Gardner needs to be sure Dr. Stahmann agrees to supervise in order for the Board to receive reports and feedback. She

stated that it appears Dr. Gardner is on task. She asked Dr. Gardner to give Dr. Stahmann her business card and ask him to call her to discuss what is required of him. Ms. Taxin recommended Dr. Gardner drop by Dr. Stahmann's office and leave a note if Dr. Stahmann is unavailable.

An appointment was made for Dr. Gardner to meet again September 14, 2007.

11:15 A.M.

Suzanne Clark, Review Hours obtained in California

Ms. Clark met for the review of her hours obtained in California to determine if any will count toward the Utah required 4000 hours of supervision for MFT licensure.

Ms. Taxin explained that Ms. Clark submitted verification of her hours obtained in California. She stated that Ms. Clark's supervisor, Priscilla E. Pascual, has been licensed in California as a Marriage and Family therapist since 2000. Ms. Taxin stated that Ms. Pascual meets Utah's requirement of being licensed a minimum of 2 years prior to supervising.

Ms. Clark explained that her first year she was a trainee at a school in Long Beach, California. She stated that it was a new program where she worked with adolescent girls, families, mothers and daughters. Ms. Clark explained that she helped with many games to get the girls involved in activities rather than being involved in gangs. She stated that many hours were mental health therapy face-to-face hours. She explained that there were also hours in the evenings with individuals and couples and there was some play therapy. She stated that she did not count any hours prior to her graduation date.

Ms. Taxin asked if California has an MFT Intern license or an equivalent license.

Ms. Clark responded that California does have an MFT Intern license. She stated that she was about 300 hours short of meeting California's licensing requirements and has not taken the test required for California licensing. She stated that she did not

complete her hours in California but she could complete her hours in Utah and has decided she should complete California's requirements in case she moves back there. Ms. Clark stated that it will take her about another year to complete the California requirements as they will only count 40 hours per week and her evening hours did not count.

Ms. Taxin stated that the Board will count up the hours after they have reviewed her verification information.

Ms. Clark asked if the Utah position is 40 hours per week and she has completed the mental health therapy hours does the Board require her to complete general hours or will they require her to continue doing mental health therapy hours also.

Ms. Taxin responded that Ms. Clark will be required to do continue as she has been in doing mental health therapy hours and the general hours. She stated that the Board will determine where her experience is deficient.

Ms. Clark stated that she is currently employed at a school in Utah where her supervisor is a social worker. She explained that she is using her Master of Arts in Psychology. Ms. Clark stated that she has a colleague who is taking the Utah AMFT course and asked if he would be qualified as a supervisor.

Ms. Taxin explained that the 2 ways an MFT can be qualified as a supervisor. She then stated that the AAMFT also has a course that is offered at specific times during the year. She stated that the Utah Association developed a course for MFT licensees who want to supervise but they can only supervise in Utah upon completion of the course.

Ms. Clark asked if her colleague will be able to supervise her after he completes the course.

Ms. Taxin responded that it is possible for the colleague to be her MFT supervisor after he completes the program.

Dr. Nielsen asked if Ms. Clark has met the education requirements for Utah.

Ms. McCall responded that she has met the education requirements and is licensed as an MFT Intern in Utah.

Following the review, Dr. Soderquist made a motion to accept the hours completed in California, that Ms. Clark must complete 1300 hours in Utah in not less than 1 year, of which at least 40 hours must be face-to-face with her MFT supervisor and 400 hours in mental health therapy. The motion continued that the additional hours may be in a combination of other duties to add up to a total of 4000 hours.

Ms. Feinauer seconded the motion.

The Board vote was unanimous.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

FYI

The Board noted that Edd G. Hill surrendered his license.

Ms. Taxin explained that there was a situation where LSAC's and SSW's were doing mental health therapy and doing evaluations. She stated that some people agreed to stipulate and have furthered their education while being on probation. She stated that Mr. Hill would not stipulate as he was of the opinion that he had done nothing wrong. She stated that Mr. Hill moved and surrendered his Utah license. Ms. Taxin concluded that hopefully the people who were assessed were assessed properly and there will not be additional problems.

NEXT MEETING SCHEDULED FOR:

September 14, 2007

ADJOURN:

The time is 11:35 am and the meeting is adjourned.

Note: These minutes are not intended to be a verbatim transcript but are intended to record the significant features of the business conducted in this meeting. Discussed items are not necessarily shown in the chronological order they occurred.

September 14, 2007
Date Approved

(ss) Richard Nielsen, Acting Chairperson
Chairperson, Utah Marriage and Family Therapy
Licensing Board

June 26, 2007
Date Approved

(ss) Noel Taxin
Bureau Manager, Division of Occupational &
Professional Licensing